

REMARKS

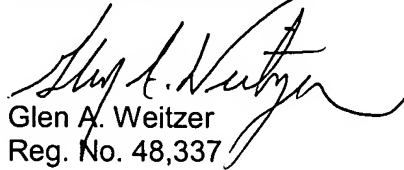
Applicant cancels claims 1-6 and 15-55 such that claims 7-14 are pending in this application.
Applicant respectfully requests allowance of all the pending claims.

Election/Restriction

The Examiner has identified in the application four species of the claimed invention as follows:
Species I (claims 1-6 and 29-43) directed to a bracket and clip where the clip has a non-uniform thickness or different widths; Species II (claims 7-14) directed to a bracket and clip where the clip comprises at least two different materials; Species III (claims 15-38 and 48-55) directed to a bracket and insert; and Species IV (claims 44-47) directed to a bracket having at least one lateral wing. In response, Applicant elects to prosecute Species II (claims 7-14) without traverse, and Applicant cancels claims 1-6 and 15-55 without prejudice.

The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned attorney should the Examiner determine that such action would facilitate the prosecution and allowance of the present application.

Respectfully submitted,



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